

REMARKS

Claims 26-45 are now pending in the application, with Claims 26, 36-39, and 41 being independent. Claim 38 has been amended herein to correct a minor error and Claim 45 is newly-presented herein to afford Applicants an increased scope of protection.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Applicants' undersigned attorney contacted the Examiner before filing this paper in order to schedule an interview. The Examiner agreed not to issue another action in this application until after the interview is conducted.

Favorable and early examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

/Mark A. Williamson/

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